

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9365

INFO USCINCSO FOR POLAD

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR OAS US VE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CALDERA ON OASGA

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT CALDERA AT REGULAR WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTION OF FON MINISTER CALVANI AS PRESIDENT OF OASGA, AND IN MODERATE MANNER SUMMARIZED NEED FOR COMMON LA POSITION, FORUM FOR CONSIDERATION OF LA PROBLEMS AND PERMANENT DIALOGUE BETWEEN LA COUNTRIES AND US. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT CALDERA OPENED REGULAR WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 5 BY EXPOUNDING AT LENGTH ON SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTION OF FONMINISTER CALVANI AS PRESIDENT OF OASGA. INJECTING THIS OCCURRENCE INTO CURRENT ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, HE USED IT AS REFUTATION OF OPPOSITION CLAIMS THAT ABILITIES OF CALDERA COLLEAGUES IN GOVERNMENT DO NOT MATCH HIS OWN. AFTER EXTRAORDINARILY FULSOME PRAISE OF CALVANI, PRESIDENT TURNED TO FUTURE OF OAS AND MOST EFFECTIVE FORMULA FOR RELATIONSHIP WITH US. HE STATED VENEZUELA DOES NOT WISH TO WRECK WHAT HAS BEEN BUILT WITH SO MANY YEAR S' EFFORT BUT WANTS TO MODIFY OAS TO " RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF A NEW HEMISPHERIC RELATIONSHIP".
  2. ANSWERING REPORTER' S QUESTION AXXUT OAS REFORMS CALDERA REPEATED " COLONIALIST MENTALITY" FORMULA USED DURING LAST MONTH' S MEETINGS WITH SOUTH AMERICAN LEADERS. CALDERA CHARACTERIZED OAS AS FORUM FOR DISCUSSING IMPORTANT PROBLEMS AND PROMOTING AID AND COOPERATION. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, RESENTMENT OF LA STATES OVER INFLUENCE AND POWER OF US, AND SAID, " I HAVE OFTEN INSISTED
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AND WANT TO INSIST AGAIN THAT MORE GRAVE THAN AN IMPERIALIST MENTALITY IN POWERFUL COUNTRIES IS A COLONIALIST MENTALITY IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. AND, UNFORTUNATELY, THAT COLONIALIST MENTALITY IN THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAS OFTEN BEEN A DETERMINING FACTOR. IN THE ERRORS AND DEFECTS WHICH ARE POINTED OUT IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES." HE THEN SAID LA COUNTRIES NEED THEIR OWN ORGANIZATION, " THEIR OWN FORUM, THEIR OWN POSSIBILITY OF CONSIDERING AND ORIENTING THEIR PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTIONS".

3. CALDERA SAID PRESIDENT NIXON HIMSELF HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN LA COUNTRIES JOINING TOGETHER TO PRESENT A COMMON POSITION; HE STATED THAT BREAKING OFF DIALOGUE WITH US WOULD BE ABSURD. INSTEAD, HE SAID, REALISTICALLY THERE SHOULD EXIST A POSSIBILITY OF PERMANENT DIALOGUE BETWEEN LA AND US; " ANYTHING ELSE WOULD BE TO IGNORE THINGS AS THEY ARE". HE SAID WITHIN OAS WAY MUST BE FOUND FOR LA NATIONS TO BECOME CLOSER AND ENGAGE IN CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE -- SUCH AS BEING SOUGHT IN CEPAL, CECLA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS -- AND AT SAME TIME FIND BEST MEANS FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN US AND OTHER NATIONS OF CONTINENT.  
MCCLINTOCK

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